

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please change the title of the invention as follows:

CYLINDRICAL CONTACT ARM HAVING A TAPERED GUIDE SECTION IN A  
POWER-DRIVEN NAILING MACHINE

Please add the following text on page 6 after line 16:

In an illustrative embodiment, the power-driven nailing machine is adapted to drive at least one-sized nail into a work piece. In this embodiment, the power-driven nailing machine comprises a driving cylinder with a longitudinal axis, including a driving piston operable between first and second positions, the second position being spaced from the first position along the longitudinal axis. In this embodiment, the power-driven nailing machine includes a driver having first and second ends, the first end being connected to the driving piston, the second end having a first outer dimension transverse to the longitudinal axis.

Moreover, in this embodiment the power-driven nailing machine includes a nose body having third and fourth ends proximate the driving cylinder, the third end of the nose body being disposed between the driving cylinder and the fourth end of the nose body, the nose body including a first passage extending from the third end to the fourth end, the passage defining a first inner dimension transverse to the longitudinal axis of the driving cylinder, the first inner dimension being greater than the first outer dimension.

Further, in this embodiment, the power-driven nailing machine includes a contact nose having a leading end. The contact nose includes a hollow member with proximal and distal ends. In this embodiment, the hollow member defines inner and outer surfaces extending from the proximal end to the distal end. Additionally, in this embodiment the fourth end of the nose body is circumferentially received within the proximal end of the hollow member such that the nose body is slidable relative to the hollow member between third and fourth positions, the second end

resting on a first portion of the inner surface at the fourth position and being spaced from the first portion of the inner surface at the third position. In this embodiment, the inner surface further includes a guide portion disposed between the fourth position and the distal end, the guide portion being configured and dimensioned to form a radial enclosure about the at least one-sized nail such that the radial enclosure aligns the at least one-sized nail with the longitudinal axis of the driving cylinder before the driver pushes the at least one-sized nail out the leading end of the contact nose into the work piece.

Additionally, in this embodiment the power-driven nailing machine includes a nail supply mechanism disposed between the driving cylinder and the fourth end of the nose body such that the nail supply mechanism supplies the at least one-sized nail to the nose body, the nail supply mechanism being configured and dimensioned to accommodate only nails having a length less than or equal to the distance measured along the longitudinal axis from the leading end of the contact nose to a farthest extent of the radial enclosure.

Also, the guide portion may include a tapered guide face, and the radial enclosure may have a straight guide portion. The power-driven nailing machine may further include a trigger such that actuating the trigger causes the driving piston to move from the first position to the second position. In this embodiment, the driver may extend through the passage in the nose body and into the contact nose when the driving piston is in the second position. Moreover, the contact nose may be movable relative to the nose body such that in one configuration the nose body blocks movement of the contact nose to actuate the trigger.